

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please amend the paragraph beginning on p. 10, line 4 as follows:

FIG. 2, is left side view of device 100. FIG. 3, is a cross-sectional view of device 100 taken through line 3-3 of FIG. 2. In this illustrated embodiment, the device 100 is sealingly attached to a removable test strip 40 to form a first chamber 30 into which a sample can be directed so that sample may contact test strip 40 and test surface 42. The housing 100 further comprises an opening 22 for receiving a sample and a first channel 24 connecting the opening 22 to chamber 30 so that sample may be directed from opening 22 to chamber 30. In another embodiment, the opening 22 may further comprise a collection pad onto which a sample may be placed or otherwise deposited for testing. For example, an individual may contact a freshly lanced finger or other body part to the collection pad to deposit a blood sample for testing within the device 100. The collection pad and opening 22 are in fluid communication and connected to chamber 30 via channel 24. The sample can be directed from the opening 22 to test surface 42 by operating the means for inducing a pressure differential on a sample to direct the sample to a test surface. The means for inducing a pressure differential on a sample to direct the sample to a test surface may be any means that can be used to direct, force, urge or otherwise compel a sample from one location to another location.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on p. 10, line 22 as follows:

In the embodiments illustrated in FIGS. 1-10, the means for inducing a pressure differential on a sample to direct the sample to a test surface is a syringe or a syringe-like device, illustrated generally as 50. Exemplary means for inducing a pressure differential on a sample to direct the sample to a test surface include any device for imparting pneumatic, hydraulic or mechanical pressure on a sample, such as, a syringe, a piston, a pump, a bladder, a vacuum and so forth. The syringe-like device 50 illustrated comprises a piston 52 that is slidingly and sealingly engaged with the inner wall of a second, cylindrical chamber 56. The syringe-like device 50 is operated by either depressing or pulling on handle 54 that is connected to piston 52 to induce a

positive or negative pressure differential and push or pull a sample, respectively. In this illustrated embodiment, the means for inducing a pressure differential on a sample to direct the sample to a test surface, the syringe-like device 50, is adapted and arranged to induce a negative pressure differential on a sample and pull the sample from the first chamber 30, through a second channel 26, and into the second chamber 56 ~~the device 400~~ as the handle 54 is extended. In at least one particular embodiment, the inner wall of a cylindrical chamber 56 is provided with ridges 58, detents or other means of informing a user of the device that a particular position is reached and notifies the user to stop pulling on the handle for a short period of time so that the device or contents of the device can perform a particular function, such as diluting or filtering or lysing the sample.